

1-1 By: Eltife S.B. No. 920  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 27, 2013; March 5, 2013,  
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Economic Development;  
 1-4 March 25, 2013, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; March 25, 2013,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 920 By: Eltife

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the requirement that an unemployed individual be  
 1-20 actively seeking work to be eligible for unemployment compensation  
 1-21 benefits.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 207.021, Labor Code, is  
 1-24 amended to read as follows:

1-25 (a) Except as provided by Chapter 215, an unemployed  
 1-26 individual is eligible to receive benefits for a benefit period if  
 1-27 the individual:

1-28 (1) has registered for work at an employment office  
 1-29 and has continued to report to the employment office as required by  
 1-30 rules adopted by the commission;

1-31 (2) has made a claim for benefits under Section  
 1-32 208.001;

1-33 (3) is able to work;

1-34 (4) is available for work;

1-35 (5) is actively seeking work in accordance with rules  
 1-36 adopted by the commission;

1-37 (6) for the individual's base period, has benefit wage  
 1-38 credits:

1-39 (A) in at least two calendar quarters; and

1-40 (B) in an amount not less than 37 times the  
 1-41 individual's benefit amount;

1-42 (7) [~~(6)~~] after the beginning date of the individual's  
 1-43 most recent prior benefit year, if applicable, earned wages in an  
 1-44 amount equal to not less than six times the individual's benefit  
 1-45 amount;

1-46 (8) [~~(7)~~] has been totally or partially unemployed for  
 1-47 a waiting period of at least seven consecutive days; and

1-48 (9) [~~(8)~~] participates in reemployment services, such  
 1-49 as a job search assistance service, if the individual has been  
 1-50 determined, according to a profiling system established by the  
 1-51 commission, to be likely to exhaust eligibility for regular  
 1-52 benefits and to need those services to obtain new employment,  
 1-53 unless:

1-54 (A) the individual has completed participation  
 1-55 in such a service; or

1-56 (B) there is reasonable cause, as determined by  
 1-57 the commission, for the individual's failure to participate in  
 1-58 those services.

1-59 SECTION 2. Subsection (b), Section 207.0212, Labor Code, is  
 1-60 amended to read as follows:

2-1 (b) Notwithstanding Section 207.021, the governor, by  
2-2 executive order, may suspend the waiting period requirement imposed  
2-3 under Section 207.021(a)(8) [~~207.021(a)(7)~~] to authorize an  
2-4 individual to receive benefits for that waiting period if the  
2-5 individual:

2-6 (1) is unemployed as a direct result of a natural  
2-7 disaster that results in a disaster declaration by the president of  
2-8 the United States under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and  
2-9 Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Section 5121 et seq.);

2-10 (2) is otherwise eligible for unemployment  
2-11 compensation benefits under this subtitle; and

2-12 (3) is not receiving disaster unemployment assistance  
2-13 benefits for the period included in that waiting period.

2-14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-18 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

2-19

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